



FORTUNE ASSOCIATES
Commercial Real Estate Brokerage

October 19, 2005

Re: Joint meeting of the Economic Development and Higher Education/Workforce Development
Work Groups of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley

Dear San Joaquin Valley Leader:

We are writing to invite you to join Labor and Workforce Development Agency Secretary Victoria Bradshaw and us at a joint meeting of the Economic Development and Higher Education/Workforce Development Work Groups of the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley. The meeting will be held on **Thursday, November 3, from 8:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the UC Center in Fresno** (550 East Shaw Avenue – [see enclosed driving directions](#)).

As you may already know, on June 24, 2005, Governor Schwarzenegger signed an executive order establishing the California Partnership of the San Joaquin Valley ("Partnership"). The purpose of the Partnership is to develop and submit to the Governor a "strategic action proposal" by October 31, 2006 that provides recommendations to improve the economic conditions of the region. Nine work groups have been established to accomplish the goals of the Partnership, including Economic Development and Higher Education/Workforce Development.

The purpose of the November 3rd meeting will be to continue the efforts that began at the inaugural meeting of the Partnership on September 16th at the University of the Pacific. We will work to identify specific goals and outcomes for both the Economic Development and the Higher Education/Workforce Development work groups, identify existing assets and efforts that can be leveraged to help accomplish those goals, and start developing action plans and organize the ongoing efforts of the work groups (please see enclosed draft agenda). To help ensure a productive meeting on November 3rd, some background materials are available for your review at the Business, Transportation and Housing web site (www.bth.ca.gov, click on "California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley" link on the home page).

This meeting is a critical "next step" for the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley, and we encourage your participation. If we are to truly accomplish the mandate of Governor Schwarzenegger's executive order for the San Joaquin Valley, the key stakeholders of the region must actively commit to and engage in this process.

Please plan to attend this important meeting and RSVP to the Office of Community and Economic Development at California State University, Fresno (559-294-6021 or ashleys@csufresno.edu). We look forward to working with you to advance the San Joaquin Valley.

Sincerely,

Larry Fortune, Fortune & Associates
California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley

Connie Conway, Tulare County Board of Supervisors
California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley

Jeff Grover, Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors
California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley